

"family touch" that many older patients sought.

Ms. Gregorius knew there was a better way and she sought to implement a new approach of "assisted living with a heartbeat." While the journey to fulfilling her dream was a long one, involving two decades of saving money—often working double shifts to earn for a down payment—she eventually secured a \$1 million bank loan. The results have been rewarding.

Today, she owns and operates the Country Gables Assisted Living Home in Grand Bay where she and her staff of 14 care for patients in a novel way. As she put it, her care facility "is pretty much run like a big bed-and-breakfast hotel, except it's breakfast, lunch and dinner with a 24-hour continuum of care."

Ms. Gregorius is joined by her mother, Lahoma, and her sister, Ramona, in running their small assisted living facility like a large family home. Their hard work has been rewarded with the satisfaction of their patients and the knowledge that County Gables is a special place.

Fittingly, in March, Robin Gregorius was named as Alabama's Small Business Person of the Year. On May 20, 2012, she officially received her award at a Small Business Administration conference honoring the nation's other Small Business awardees here in Washington, DC.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Ms. Gregorius and her family for not only receiving this wonderful honor, but also for their substantial contributions to the lives of many local seniors.

REPRESENTATIVE KIND FLOOR
AMENDMENT 67 (RULES AMEND-
MENT 143) TO THE NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
(H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to permit the National Guard and Federal agencies performing homeland defense activities to enter into a military cooperative agreement with facilities capable of providing emergency response training.

Providing our National Guard units and public service employees with increased opportunities to train at the state of the art homeland defense training facilities is just plain common-sense. It's a win for the military and service personnel who will be better prepared to safely work in the field and a win for the local communities, who will see local job creation.

My amendment does not call for any increase in funding. It is simply a legislative fix to allow the training facilities to competitively bid for training contracts with the National Guard and Federal agencies. This will allow for additional, comprehensive training for those who are on the front lines during a domestic emergency.

I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment to ensure that our National Guard and homeland disaster first responders have all of the training and tools necessary to carry out their mission.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 302 I was inadvertently recorded as voting "aye."

I oppose the Grimm amendment and my vote should be recorded as "nay."

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5651, the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012, to reauthorize the Prescription Drug User Fee Act and the Medical Device User Fee Act. These critically important laws have improved patient access to important therapies and expedited the FDA's approval times while upholding the most rigorous standards for patient safety.

The Prescription Drug User Fee Act, PDUFA, was enacted in 1992 when drug review times were lagging and FDA simply couldn't keep up with the flood of new drug applications. Through user fees paid by applicants, PDUFA gave FDA the resources it needed to hire and support more staff. The program has been successful at reducing review-time backlogs and expediting safe and effective therapies to patients.

Along with faster drug approvals, Congress also recognized the need to study drugs in children. As the original author of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, BPCA, and the Pediatric Research Equity Act, PREA, I'm proud of how successful these programs have been in treating children, resulting in new dosing information, new indications of use, new safety information, and new data on effectiveness. Before BPCA and PREA, the vast majority of drugs (more than 80 percent) used in children were used off-label, without data for their safety and efficacy. Today, that number has been reduced to 50 percent.

We know that children are not just small adults—they have unique medical needs and drugs react differently in their bodies. That's why in this year's reauthorization, it was important for us to look at areas in need of improvement. The bipartisan legislation gives FDA the tools it needs to ensure companies are thinking about pediatric populations as early as possible in the drug development process, and that they're able to enforce timelines that are routinely missed. The language encourages further study into untested age groups, like neonates, and clarifies any confusion over what some see as "loopholes" to allow companies to access the market exclusivity incentive without completing additional studies.

The legislation ensures that companies routinely submit their pediatric plans earlier in the process by establishing a clear timeline and expectations. I will be closely monitoring the regulation that will implement the pediatric

plan content, as it was my intention that the regulation closely mirror the 1998 Pediatric Rule.

I thank my colleagues, Rep. MIKE ROGERS and Rep. EDWARD MARKEY who worked tirelessly with me to improve these programs, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, along with 20 other pediatric advocacy groups who provided expert guidance and recommendations throughout the process. Together we've improved BPCA and PREA to benefit medical care for children for generations to come.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF ALA-
BAMA GYMNASTICS COACH
SARAH PATTERSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor University of Alabama gymnastics coach Sarah Patterson who led the Crimson Tide to its sixth national championship this spring. In addition to racking up an impressive record of victories over her 34 seasons in Tuscaloosa, Coach Patterson has helped establish Alabama as a dominate force in college gymnastics.

It is fitting that Coach Patterson was hired by then-Athletic Director Paul "Bear" Bryant, himself no stranger to bringing home national titles to Alabama. Since arriving in Tuscaloosa after graduating from Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania, Coach Patterson has proven time and again her ability to lead the Crimson Tide's gymnastics team and maintain its dominance in the college sport.

Coach Patterson vaulted the University to prominence as one of only four teams to capture the NCAA Women's Gymnastics championship since Women's Gymnastics was declared a championship sport in 1982. Her excellence in coaching also helped to earn the Crimson Tide gymnastics team spots in 29 consecutive NCAA championship competitions. Coach Patterson has also led the Tide to 27 years of a top six finish and 20 top three finishes.

Fittingly, Coach Patterson was named NCAA Women's Gymnastics Coach of the Year in 1986, 1988, 1991, and 2002; and Southeastern Conference Women's Gymnastics Coach of the Year in 1985, 1995, 2000 and 2010.

Coach Patterson's distinguished record includes: Six NCAA Women's Gymnastics championships—1988, 1991, 1996, 2002, 2011, and 2012; Seven Southeastern Conference Championships—1988, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2003, 2009, and 2011; 27 NCAA Regional Titles—1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Coach Patterson is assisted by her husband, David, who helps with coaching the athletes. Their hard work, along with other volunteer coaches and assistant coaches, have led the Alabama gymnastics team to six national championships and the enviable position of being one of the best in the nation, year in and year out, as well as the many well-rounded athletes who have graduated to go on to great success in many fields.